

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Ethnic Issues Advisory Board was called to order on January 6, 2004 at 7:05 p.m. in Conference Room C at Troy City Hall.

Roll Call

Present:	Anju Brodbine	Charles Yuan
	Amin Hashmi	Jeff Hyun
	Oniell Shah	Katie Beyer, Student Rep
	Tom Kaszubski	Kara Huang, Student Rep
	Padma Kuppa	Cindy Stewart, City Liaison
	Flora Tan	

Absent: Excuse Hailu Robele; Motion by Kuppa support by Yuan

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Yuan, support by Brodbine to approve December 9, 2003 minutes. Approved unanimously.

Correspondence

Oakland Press article from December 9, 2003: "Arab population surging, census says"

New Business

A. EthniCity

Introduce Troy Daze Board members: Jim Cyrulewski, Bob Berk, Cele Dilley, Cheryl Whitton

Explanation about EthniCity - EthniCity originally started as separate idea, but added to Troy Daze as an event under a tent, with stage entertainment showcasing ethnic diversity, with parade participation and food, a bit disjointed.

The Troy Daze Board is asking EIA re: assistance & ideas to help them provide a focus to showcase EthniCity. What is the best mechanism to do this? Is there more to do at other events? What level of participation would the EIA like to take?

Before 2004 Troy Daze preparation takes place, thought they'd ask EIA's advice and ask them to lend assistance re: diversity.

EthniCity came into existence in 1997 and came out of the Futures Report. Thought was to grow it within Troy Daze and eventually have separate ethnic festival (May or June) in the City.

How can the Troy Daze Board work effectively with EIA Board to have a stronger partnership?

Is entertainment the best we can offer?

Should EIA have booth in main tent or EthniCity tent?

Does EIA have a vision for EthniCity as a stand-alone festival?

Is our publicity reaching the right audiences?

Wanted to steadily increase number of different countries represented. First year 12-15, past year about 25. Can't seem to get past this number. Is a 4-day festival too long? Brainstorm with family and friends. Check EIA Board's contacts re: Ethnic food, entertainment.

OS – Suggests the EIA Board brainstorm ideas and get together again at a special meeting.

AB – Suggests shorter time span for entertainment. Audiences might be too small and disheartening for performers.

EIA has taken resource list from EthniCity chairperson and is expanding on this re: guide for entire community, new residents

Other questions asked of EIA Board to consider...

What should happen with EthniCity? Stay with Troy Daze? Formed as own festival?

What is role of EIA Board in Troy Daze whether part of Troy Daze or separate entity?

What improvements can you see are needed?

Publicity, EthniCity tent flow, more ethnic involvement, fundraising ideas
(EthniCity costs are about \$10,000 not including infrastructure)

Meet again at March 2 meeting with Troy Daze Board and EthniCity co-chairs or maybe schedule a special study session if agenda is too full that evening.

B. Kaleidoscope

Does the EIA Board want to have a booth at the Community Kaleidoscope event on Saturday, January 24 from 12-4 pm. Booth could distribute flyers, have info on EIA Board. Board agreed to have a booth. Schedule as follows:

Amin: 12-1p, Anju: 1-2p, Padma: 2-3, Oniell: 3-4p. Jeff can help with set-up.

C. Adoption support groups:

Board to try and get info on organizations, which offer assistance to help families who adopt children from other countries. Include information in the resource list.

D. Holiday Tree Lighting:

Why not other holiday songs besides Christmas related ones? Padma will contact Dan Stevens re: incorporating other songs from around the world next year.

E. Sights & Sounds of China

Introduced Frank Jiang, Greater Chinese Association and James Sheng, Principal at DoArt School, representatives for Sights & Sounds of China event. The February 7th event will be represented by

Chinese Association of Greater Detroit, Detroit Dance Club, American Chinese Association for Cultural and Art Exchange, Detroit Oriental Art School, and American Chinese School of Greater Detroit. The day will include a Fashion show, martial arts, dance, paper cutting, calligraphy.

On Sunday, January 11 at 1:30 pm, the committee will hold a meeting at Community Center to assign tasks. Set up similar – need yellow balloons & helium tank.

Possible to get extra rooms for displays (301-302)? Get our rooms earlier – 10 am for setup

F. Future Sights & Sounds give Edith's # to Padma for Germany. For the March event, Flora will call Dr. Ernie Mack and Tom will call Willie Hernandez re: Philippines. Middle East - Mayda invited to February meeting and Greece - Eugenia coming to March meeting

G. Resource List:

Continue compiling information and send to Cindy.

H. Diversity Week:

Email Anju previous letters to be redone

Motion by Hyun, seconded by Hashmi to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9 pm.

Tom Kaszubski, EIA Board Chairman

Cindy Stewart, Recording Secretary